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PROCUREMENT SECTION  
CURRENT SERIAL RECORDS

# **WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA**

Prepared by

**U. S. DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE ★ SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE**

Collaborating with

NEVADA DEPARTMENT of CONSERVATION and NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION of WATER RESOURCES

Data included in this report were obtained by the agencies named above  
in cooperation with Federal, State and private organizations listed on  
the last page of this report.

AS OF  
**APR. 1, 1973**

## TO RECIPIENTS OF WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK REPORTS:

Most of the usable water in western states originates as mountain snowfall. This snowfall accumulates during the winter and spring, several months before the snow melts and appears as streamflow. Since the runoff from precipitation as snow is delayed, estimates of snowmelt runoff can be made well in advance of its occurrence. Streamflow forecasts published in this report are based principally on measurement of the water equivalent of the mountain snowpack.

Forecasts become more accurate as more of the data affecting runoff are measured. All forecasts assume that climatic factors during the remainder of the snow accumulation and melt season will interact with a resultant average effect on runoff. Early season forecasts are therefore subject to a greater change than those made at later dates.

The snow course measurement is obtained by sampling snow depth and water equivalent at surveyed and marked locations in mountain areas. A total of about ten samples are taken at each location. The average of these are reported as snow depth and water equivalent. These measurements are repeated in the same location near the same dates each year.

Snow surveys are made monthly or semi-monthly from January 1 through June 1 in most states. There are about 1900 snow courses in Western United States and in the Columbia Basin in British Columbia. Networks of automatic snow water equivalent and related data sensing devices, along with radio telemetry are expanding and will provide a continuous record of snow water and other parameters at key locations.

Detailed data on snow course and soil moisture measurements are presented in state and local reports. Other data on reservoir storage, summaries of precipitation, current streamflow, and soil moisture conditions at valley elevations are also included. The report for Western United States presents a broad picture of water supply outlook conditions, including selected streamflow forecasts, summary of snow accumulation to date, and storage in larger reservoirs.

Snow survey and soil moisture data for the period of record are published by the Soil Conservation Service by states about every five years. Data for the current year is summarized in a West-wide basic data summary and published about October 1 of each year.

## PUBLISHED BY SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

The Soil Conservation Service publishes reports following the principal snow survey dates from January 1 through June 1 in cooperation with state water administrators, agricultural experiment stations and others. Copies of the reports for Western United States and all state reports may be obtained from Soil Conservation Service, Western Regional Technical Service Center, Room 209, 511 N. W. Broadway, Portland, Oregon 97209.

Copies of state and local reports may also be obtained from state offices of the Soil Conservation Service in the following states:

STATE	ADDRESS
Alaska	204 E. 5th. Ave., Room 217, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Arizona	6029 Federal Building, Phoenix, Arizona 85025
Colorado (N. Mex.)	P. O. Box 17107, Denver, Colorado 80217
Idaho	Room 345, 304 N. 8th. St., Boise, Idaho 83702
Montana	P. O. Box 970, Bozeman, Montana 59715
Nevada	P. O. Box 4850, Reno Nevada 89505
Oregon	1218 S. W. Washington St., Portland, Oregon 97205
Utah	4012 Federal Bldg., 125 South State St., Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Washington	360 U.S. Court House, Spokane, Washington 99201
Wyoming	P. O. Box 2440, Casper, Wyoming 82601

## PUBLISHED BY OTHER AGENCIES

Water Supply Outlook reports prepared by other agencies include a report for California by the Water Supply Forecast and Snow Surveys Unit, California Department of Water Resources, P. O. Box 388, Sacramento, California 95802 --- and for British Columbia by the Department of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Water Resources Service, Parliament Building, Victoria, British Columbia



# **WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA**

and  
FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

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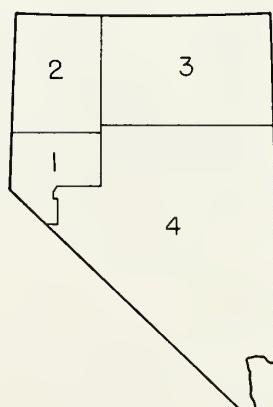
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### DETAILED WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK BY MAJOR AREAS:

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ALL AVERAGES ARE FOR 1953-67 PERIOD



AREA LOCATIONS

# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR NEVADA

NEVADA'S APRIL 1, 1973, WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK RANGES FROM ABOVE AVERAGE IN THE NORTH TO EXCELLENT IN THE SOUTH. THIS YEAR'S MOUNTAIN SNOWPACK IS ABOVE AVERAGE ON EVERY WATERSHED IN OR AFFECTING THE STATE'S WATER SUPPLY.

SNOW COVER IN THE TRUCKEE, CARSON AND WALKER WATERSHEDS IS GENERALLY 20 TO 30 PERCENT ABOVE NORMAL. THE HUMBOLDT WATERSHED IS SIMILAR, WITH 125 TO 135 PERCENT OF AVERAGE SNOWPACK. THE CURRENT SNOWPACK IN CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN NEVADA IS EXTREMELY HEAVY, WITH THE DEEPEST SNOW COVER OF RECORD IN THE AUSTIN AREA.

RESERVOIR STORAGE REMAINS EXCELLENT, WITH MAJOR RESERVOIRS IMPOUNDING 137 PERCENT OF THE USUAL CARRYOVER STORAGE.

Snow cover throughout Nevada is above average. The northern part of the state has 10 to 35 percent above average snowpack, while the central and southern portions have 150 to 400 percent of normal snow conditions.

The east slope of the Sierra range currently has a snowpack varying from 121 percent in the Lake Tahoe drainage to 135 percent in the Walker River watershed. The Carson River watershed has a similar snowpack at 130 percent. Snow conditions in the Humboldt River watershed are similar, with a 135 percent of average snowpack. The snowpack in the Owyhee River drainage came up from last month to 115 percent of normal at this time.

The mountain snowpack in central and southern Nevada is one of the heaviest on record. The mountain watershed above Austin is buried beneath the deepest snowpack ever recorded since records began in 1941. Snow depths in the Ely area are 145 percent of normal. This year's snow cover on Mt. Charleston near Las Vegas is also one of the deepest on record, averaging 286 percent of normal.

Reservoir storage in Nevada's major irrigation reservoirs is currently 137 percent of average. This is 93 percent of the amount held in storage at this time last year. Rye Patch Reservoir on the Humboldt is completely full and storing above normal capacity on flash boards; Wild Horse is filling and only 11,000 acre-feet below capacity.

Carryover storage in the Truckee and Carson drainages is currently 126 percent of average. Topaz and Bridgeport Reservoirs on the Walker drainage contain 87 percent of average storage. This is only 10,000 acre-feet short of average storage, however.

Streamflow forecasts range from a low of 107 percent on the Marys River, a tributary of the Humboldt, to a high of 237 percent on the Virgin River in southern Nevada.

The Truckee, Carson and Walker Rivers are generally forecast to flow 115 to 130 percent of average this summer. Forecasts in the Humboldt drainage range from 107 to 144 percent, with the Humboldt at Palisade expected to produce 136 percent of normal streamflow this year. The Owyhee and Salmon Falls Creek drainages are similar, with 16 to 30 percent greater than normal flows expected.

The Surprise Valley area will also have above average streamflow with forecasts generally 10 to 40 percent above normal.

Streams in central and eastern Nevada will produce above average to excellent flows this spring and summer, and irrigation interests should have the best supply since 1969 in this area.

Considering the above average snowpack, along with the favorable reservoir storage, Nevada water users will generally have a very good water supply for the coming irrigation season.



# PROSPECTIVE WATER SUPPLY FOR NEVADA

20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13

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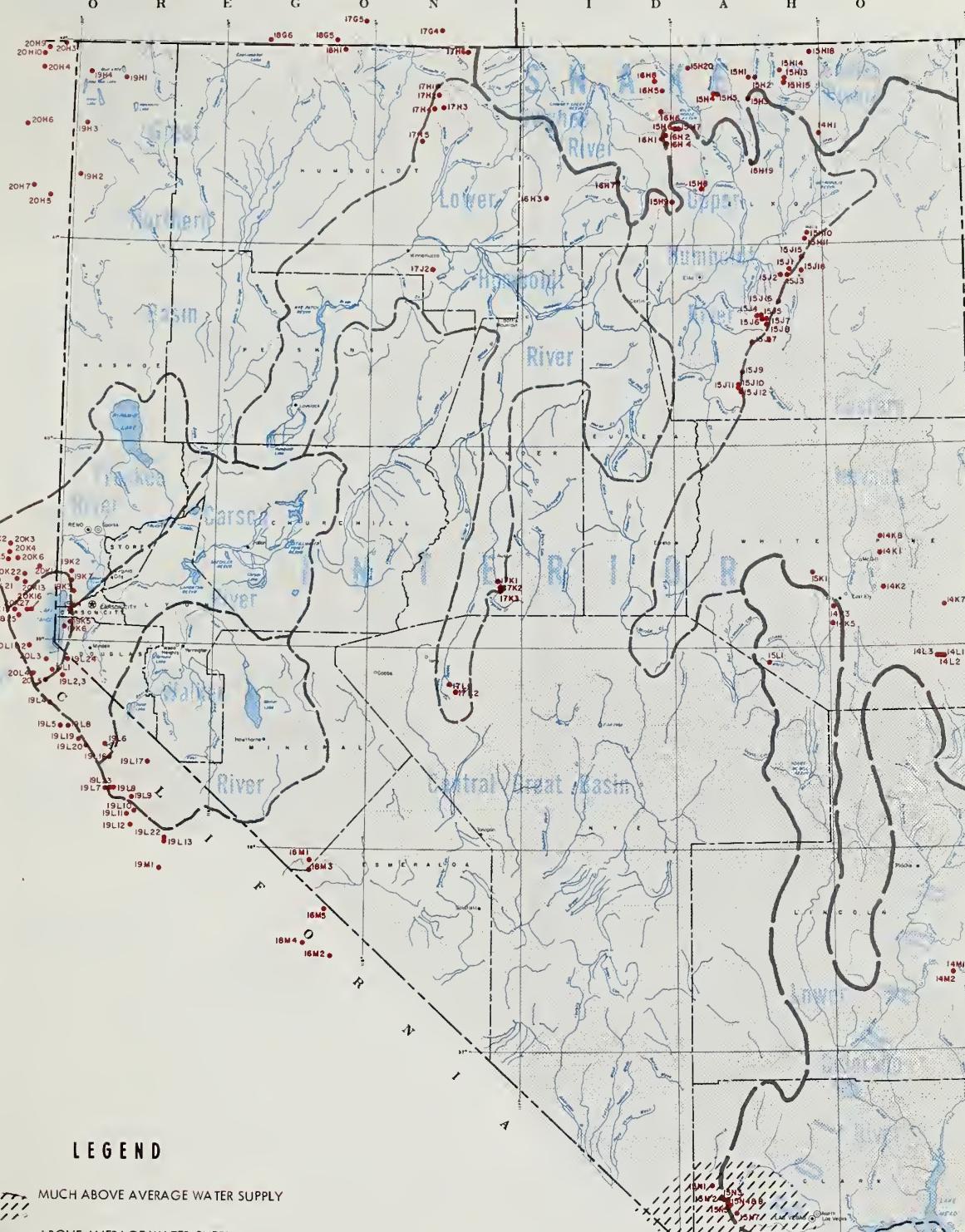
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## LEGEND

- MUCH ABOVE AVERAGE WATER SUPPLY
- ABOVE AVERAGE WATER SUPPLY
- NEAR AVERAGE WATER SUPPLY
- BELOW AVERAGE WATER SUPPLY
- MUCH BELOW AVERAGE WATER SUPPLY



20 MILES  
EQUAL AREA PROJECTION

# INDEX TO NEVADA SNOW COURSES

## (By Basins)

Refer to the map on the preceding page for Snow Course locations.

NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.		NUMBER	NAME	SEC.	TWP.	RGE.	ELEV.
<b>SNAKE RIVER BASIN</b>												
<b>SNAKE RIVER</b>												
15H1MA	Bear Creek	31	46N	58E	7800		20L5	Echo Summit (Cal.)	6	11N	18E	7450
15H2	Fox Creek	33	46N	58E	6800		19L2	Free Bench (Cal.)	36	12N	18E	7300
15H13A	Goat Creek	31	46N	60E	8800		19K6	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	6900
15H15A	Hummingbird Springs	6	45N	60E	8945		19L3M5Z	Hagana Meadow (Cal.)	36	12N	18E	8000
14H1	Jakes Creek	6	42N	62E	7000		20L4	Lake Lucille (Cal.)	28	12N	17E	8200
15H20a	Merritt Mountain	10	46N	54E	7000		19K4M5TZ	Marlette Lake	18	15N	19E	8000
15H14A	Pole Creek Ranger Station	13	46N	59E	8330		20L3	Richardson #2 (Cal.)	6	12N	18E	6500
15H18a	Red Point	15	47N	61E	7940		20L1	Rubicon #1 (Cal.)	6	13N	17E	8100
15H3A	76 Creek	6	44N	58E	7100		20L2	Rubicon #2 (Cal.)	6	13N	17E	7500
15H19a	Stag Mountain	29	41N	58E	7800		20K16	Tahoe City (Cal.)	6	15N	17E	6250
<b>OWYHEE RIVER</b>												
15H4MP	Big Bend	30	45N	56E	6700		19L1	Upper Truckee (Cal.)	21	12N	18E	6400
16H6a	Columbia Basin	31	44N	53E	6650		20K17M	Ward Creek (Cal.)	21	15N	16E	7000
16H8a	Fawn Creek	2	45N	52E	7000		20K25STZ	Ward Creek #2 (Cal.)	21	15N	16E	6750
15H5	Gold Creek	32	45N	56E	6600		20K27	Tahoe City Cross (Cal.)	1	15N	16E	6750
16H1M	Jack Creek, Lower	18	42N	53E	6800							
16H2A	Jack Creek, Upper	9	42N	53E	7250							
16H4	Jacks Peak	28	42N	53E	8420							
16H5	Laurel Draw	20	45N	53E	6700							
17G4a	Louse Canyon (Oreg.)	27	40S	44E	6440							
15H9MP	Taylor Canyon	35	39N	53E	6200							
<b>INTERIOR</b>												
<b>UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>												
15J17a	American Beauty	32	31N	58E	7800		20K14	Boca #2 (Cal.)	28	18N	17E	5900
15J12A	Corral Canyon	27	28N	57E	8500		20K22	Brockway Summit (Cal.)	3	17N	16E	7100
15J1MP	Dorsey Basin	28	35N	60E	8100		20K21	Donner Park #2 (Cal.)	18	17N	16E	6000
15J3	Ory Creek	5	34N	60E	6500		20K10	Donner Summit (Cal.)	25	17N	14E	6900
15H7	Fry Canyon	31	43N	54E	6700		20K7*	Fordyce Lake (Cal.)	34	18N	13E	6500
15J9MP	Green Mountain	23	29N	57E	8000		20K8*	Furnace Flat (Cal.)	10	17N	13E	6700
15J10	Harrison Pass #1	9	28N	57E	6600		19L245	Heavenly Valley (Cal.)	1	12N	18E	8850
15J11*	Harrison Pass #2	16	28N	57E	7400		20K4M5TPZ	Independence Camp (Cal.)	34	19N	15E	7000
15J4	Lamoille #1	15	32N	58E	7100		20K3	Independence Creek (Cal.)	14	19N	15E	6500
15J5	Lamoille #2	14	32N	58E	7200		20K5	Independence Lake (Cal.)	9	18N	15E	8450
15J6M	Lamoille #3	24	32N	58E	7700		19K3	Little Valley	17	16N	19E	6300
15J7	Lamoille #4	19	32N	59E	8000		19K2	Mt. Rose	7	17N	19E	9000
15J8P	Lamoille #5	31	32N	59E	8700		19K7	Mt. Rose Ski Area	30	17N	19E	9000
15J18a	Pole Canyon	31	35N	61E	9140		20K6	Sage Hen Creek (Cal.)	7	18N	16E	6500
15J16a	Robinson Lake	23	33N	59E	9200		20K19	Squaw Valley #2 (Cal.)	6	15N	16E	7500
15H6MP	Roded Flat	36	43N	53E	6800		20K13M	Truckee #2 (Cal.)	22	17N	16E	6400
15J2	Ryan Ranch	1	34N	59E	5800		20K2*	Webber Lake (Cal.)	29	19N	14E	7000
15H8	Tremewan Ranch	9	39N	55E	5700		20K1*	Webber Peak (Cal.)	30	19N	14E	8000
15H10P	Trout Creek, Lower	28	37N	61E	6900							
15H11A	Trout Creek, Upper	4	36N	61E	8500							
<b>LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>												
17K1	Big Creek Camp Ground	10	17N	43E	6600		19L5	Blue Lakes (Cal.)	30	9N	19E	8000
17K2	Big Creek Mine	23	17N	43E	7600		19L4	Carson Pass, Upper (Cal.)	22	10N	18E	8600
17K3	Big Creek, Upper	26	17N	43E	7800		19K5	Clear Creek	6	14N	19E	7300
17H2	Buckskin, Lower	25	45N	39E	6700		19L19a	Ebbets Pass (Cal.)	17	8N	20E	8700
17H1	Buckskin, Upper	11	45N	39E	8200		19L16a	Fish Valley, Upper (Cal.)	1	7N	22E	8050
17L1	Corral, Lower	12	11N	40E	7500		19L06a	Poison Flat (Cal.)	25	8N	21E	7900
17L2	Corral, Upper	20	11N	41E	8000		19L18AS	Wet Meadows Lake (Cal.)	26	9N	19E	8100
17J2	Golconda #2	22	35N	39E	6000		19L20a	Wolf Creek (Cal.)	35	8N	20E	8000
17H4	Granite Peak	22	44N	39E	7800							
17H5	Lamance Creek	13	42N	38E	6000							
17H3	Martin Creek	18	44N	40E	6700							
16H3AP	Midas	18	39N	46E	7200							
16H7	Toe Jam a	29	40N	50E	7700							
<b>EASTERN NEVADA</b>												
14L1	Baker #1	29	13N	69E	7950		19L11	Buckeye Forks (Cal.)	20	4N	22E	8600
14L2	Baker #2	30	13N	69E	8950		19L10	Buckeye Roughs (Cal.)	15	4N	23E	7900
14L3	Baker #3*	25	13N	68E	9250		19L12A	Center Mountain (Cal.)	4	3N	23E	9400
14K2	Berry Creek	26	17N	65E	9100		19L8	Leavitt Meadows (Cal.)	4	5N	22E	7200
14K1	Bird Creek	34	19N	65E	7500		19L17a	Lobdell Lake (Cal.)	20	7N	24E	9200
15J15	Hole-In-Mountain	6	35N	61E	7900		19L7M	Sonora Pass (Cal.)	1	5N	21E	8800
14K8	Kalamzoo Creek	34	20N	65E	7400		19L23STPZ	Sonora Pass Bridge	6	5N	22E	8800
14K3	Murray Summit	25	16N	62E	7250		19M1*	Tioga Pass (Cal.)	30	1N	25E	9900
15K1	Robinson Summit	34	18N	61E	7600		19L13	Virginia Lakes (Cal.)	5	2N	25E	9500
14K7	Silver Creek #2	30	16N	69E	8000		19L22MSZ	Virginia Lakes Ridge	32	3N	25E	9200
14K5	Ward Mountain #2	25	15N	62E	8900		19L9	Willow Flat (Cal.)	21	5N	23E	8250
<b>CENTRAL GREAT BASIN</b>												
18M2	Campito Mountain (Cal.)	19	55	35E	10200							
18M5a	Chiavochi Flat	32	25	34E	10500							
15N2	Clark Canyon	8	19S	56E	9000							
18M1	Montgomery Pass	4	1N	33E	7100							
18M3a	Pinchot Creek	28	1N	33E	9300							
18M4a	Piute Pass (Cal.)	33	45	33E	11700							
15N1	Trough Springs	23	18S	55E	8500							
<b>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</b>												
19H1	Bald Mountain	17	45N	21E	6720							
20H5	Barber Creek (Cal.)	23	39N	16E	6500							
20H6	Cedar Pass (Cal.)	12	43N	14E	7100							
18G6a	Denio Creek (Oreg.)	14	41S	34E	6000							
18H1	Disaster Peak	8	47N	34E	6500							
20H3a	Dismal Swamp (Cal.)	31	48N	17E	7000							
20H7	Eagle Peak (Cal.)	35	40N	15E	7200							
19H3	49-Mountain	7	42N	19E	6000							
19H2	Hays Canyon	1	39N	18E	6400							
19H4a	Little Bally Mountain	8	45N	19E	6000							
20H9	Mt. Bidwell	6	47N	16E	7200							
20H10	North Star	13	47N	15E	6200							
17G5a	Oregon Canyon (Oreg.)	9	40S	40E	7240							
17H6a	Quinn Ridge	9	47N	41E	6300							
20H4	Reservation Creek (Cal.)	12	46N	15E	5900							
18G5a	Trout Creek (Oreg.)	10	41S	38E	7800							
<b>LAKE TAHOE</b>												
20L5	Echo Summit (Cal.)	6	11N	18E	7450							
19L2	Free Bench (Cal.)	36	12N	18E	7300							
19K6	Glenbrook #2	13	14N	18E	6900							
19L3M5Z	Hagana Meadow (Cal.)	36	12N	18E	8000							
20L4	Lake Lucille (Cal.)	28	12N	17E	8200							
19K4M5TZ	Marlette Lake	18	15N	19E	8000							
20L3	Richardson #2 (Cal.)	6	12N	18E	6500							
20L1	Rubicon #1 (Cal.)	6	13N	17E	8100							
20L2	Rubicon #2 (Cal.)	6	13N	17E	7500							
20K16	Tahoe City (Cal.)	6	15N	17E	6250							
19L1	Upper Truckee (Cal.)	21	12N	18E	6400							
20K17M	Ward Creek (Cal.)	21	15N	16E	7000							
20K25STZ	Ward Creek #2 (Cal.)	21	15N	16E	6750							
20K27	Tahoe City Cross (Cal.)	1	15N	16E	6750							
<b>TRUCKEE RIVER</b>												
20K14	Boca #2 (Cal.)	28	18N	17E	5900							
20K22	Brockway Summit (Cal.)	3	17N	16E	7100							
20K21	Donner Park #2 (Cal.)	18	17N	16E	6000							
20K10	Donner Summit (Cal.)	25	17N	14E	6900							
20K7*	Fordyce Lake (Cal.)	34	18N	13E	6500				</			

# STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: April 1, 1973

Forecasts are based on snow-water presently stored in the mountain watersheds and the assumption that precipitation will be near average throughout the forecast period. Peak flow forecasts indicate the most probable range for the maximum average 24-hour flow. All averages are for 1953-67 period.

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average +
<b>TRUCKEE RIVER</b>				
Little Truckee River above Boca, CA <sup>1</sup>	April-July	104	128	81
Truckee River at Farad, CA <sup>1,2</sup>	April-July	310	120	258
Lake Tahoe Rise in Feet (From April 1, assuming gates closed) <sup>2</sup>	April-July	1.70	122	1.39
<b>CARSON RIVER</b>				
East Carson near Gardnerville, NV	April-July	208	119	175
West Carson at Woodfords, CA	April-July	58	114	51
Carson River near Carson City, NV	April-July	204	123	166
Carson River at Fort Churchill, NV	April-July	193	129	150
<b>WALKER RIVER</b>				
East Walker near Bridgeport, CA <sup>1</sup>	April-Aug.	75	125	60
West Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	April-July	168	117	143
<b>COLORADO RIVER</b>				
Virgin River at Virgin, UT	April-June	90	237	38
<b>HUMBOLDT RIVER</b>				
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, NV	April-July	30	120	25
South Fork Humboldt near Elko, NV	April-July	75	130	58
Marys River above Hot Springs, NV	April-July	30	107	28
North Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, NV	April-July	28	108	26
Humboldt River at Palisade, NV	April-July	209	136	154
Humboldt River at Comus, NV	April-July	158	144	110
Martin Creek near Paradise, NV	April-July	15	107	14

+ 1953-1967 period.

**STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (Thousand Acre Feet) as of: April 1, 1973**

FORECAST POINT	Forecast Period	Forecast This Year	This Year as Percent of Average	Average +
<b><u>SNAKE RIVER</u></b>				
Owyhee River near Owyhee, NV <sup>1</sup>	April-July	72	120	60
Owyhee River near Gold Creek, NV <sup>1</sup>	April-July	21	130	16
Salmon Falls Creek near San Jacinto, NV	March-July	77	116	67
<b><u>SURPRISE VALLEY</u></b>				
Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell, CA	April-July	12.5	109	11.5
Mill Creek near Cedarville, CA	April-July	6.0	128	4.7
Deep Creek near Cedarville, CA	April-July	5.0	152	3.3
Eagle Creek near Eagleville, CA	April-July	6.0	140	4.3

<sup>1</sup> Corrected for storage

<sup>2</sup> Forecast issued by Truckee Basin Committee

**PEAK FLOWS** (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average +
Little Truckee River - Inflow to Stampede Reservoir	1100-1200	902
East Fork Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	1830-2030	1724
Carson River near Carson City, NV	2060-2280	1825
Carson River at Fort Churchill, NV	1880-2080	1678
West Walker River below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	1630-1810	1548

**FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES**

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/Ft.	Forecast Date Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson River near Gardnerville, NV	200	7/28	7/23

**SOIL MOISTURE MEASUREMENTS**

STATION	Profile (Inches)		Soil Moisture (Inches)		
	Depth	Capacity	Date	This Year	Average +
<b>OWYHEE-HUMBOLDT BASIN</b>					
Bear Creek	72	16.9	3/28	9.6	12.9*
Big Bend	48	16.7	3/23	12.0	15.9*
Rodeo Flat	42	11.0	3/21	4.1	10.8*
Taylor Canyon	48	15.1	3/27	12.6	14.0*
<b>TAHOE-TRUCKEE BASIN</b>					
Independence Camp	34	6.1	No survey		5.6*
Marlette Lake	50	3.7	3/29	2.7	3.3*
<b>WALKER BASIN</b>					
Sonora Pass	48	8.3	3/27	6.2	8.3*
Virginia Lakes Ridge	40	5.0	3/26	2.3	-

\* Adjusted average

+ 1953-1967 period.

**RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet) as of April 1, 1973**

Basin or Stream	RESERVOIR	Usable Capacity	Usable Storage		
			This Year	Last Year	Average <sup>†</sup>
Owyhee	Wild Horse	72	61	75	18
Lower Humboldt	Rye Patch	179	187	188	84
Colorado	Mohave	1,810	1,679	1,686	1,695
Colorado	Mead	27,217	19,980	17,174	16,070
Tahoe	Tahoe	732	542	552	431
Truckee	Boca	41	32	33	11
Truckee	Stampede	220	130	138	**
Truckee	Prosser ***	30	10	8	9*
Carson	Lahontan	314	263	287	217
West Walker	Topaz	59	39	50	44
East Walker	Bridgeport	42	29	42	34

*\* Adjusted average*  
*\*\* Storage began August 1, 1969*  
*\*\*\* Flood control use of 20,000 acre-feet  
between November 1 and April 10*

**TOTAL RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)**

MONTH	This Year	Last Year	Average <sup>†</sup>
October 1	867	1038	656
January 1	917	1100	660
February 1	1025	1111	715
March 1	1093	1140	768
April 1	1153	1227	839
May 1		1232	890

The above data developed from Wild Horse, Rye Patch, Tahoe, Boca, Lahontan, Topaz, and Bridgeport Reservoirs in 1,000 Acre-Feet.

**TOTAL USABLE CAPACITY 1,439**

+ 1953-1967 period.

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE NAME	THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches) Last Year	Average +
<u>LAKE TAHOE</u>					
Echo Summit (CA)	4/2	99	39.0	28.0	33.8
Freel Bench (CA)	3/29	40	15.4	3.5	9.6
Glenbrook #2	3/28	38	12.7	5.7	11.1
Hagans Meadow	3/29	60	21.9	8.5	16.4
Heavenly Valley	3/26	79	30.2	22.4	-
Lake Lucille (CA)	3/29	156	63.3	51.5	56.3
Marlette Lake	3/28	68	24.8	14.1	20.1
Richardsons #2 (CA)	3/28	55	19.8	10.4	14.9
Rubicon #1 (CA)	3/29	138	50.0	42.9	47.2
Rubicon #2 (CA)	3/29	88	33.5	22.5	28.3
Tahoe City (CA)	3/26	39	16.1	0.0	8.1
Tahoe City Alternate (CA)	3/26	40	16.2	0.0	-
Tahoe City Cross (CA)	3/28	62	23.4	7.1	-
Upper Truckee (CA)	3/29	33	12.6	3.5	6.8
Ward Creek #2 (CA)	3/26	113	46.7	34.3	42.3
Ward Creek #3 (CA)	3/26	103	41.1	31.1	-
<u>TRUCKEE RIVER</u>					
Boca #2 (CA)	3/28	19	7.0	0.0	3.7
Brockway Summit (CA)	3/27	64	22.8	0.0	13.4*
Donner Park #2 (CA)	3/28	58	21.9	10.7	17.5*
Donner Summit (CA)	3/26	114	47.5	27.1	35.1
Fordyce Lake (CA)	3/26	117	49.6	33.6	40.0
Furnace Flat (CA)	3/26	131	54.6	42.1	46.8*
Independence Camp (CA)	3/27	68	26.1	15.2	22.0
Independence Creek (CA)	3/27	47	17.1	4.5	12.8
Independence Lake (CA)	3/27	110	43.9	35.2	40.5
Little Valley	3/30	23	8.0	.3	6.0*
Mount Rose	3/29	100	44.1	28.8	32.4
Mount Rose Ski Area	3/26	108	43.7	30.3	-
Sage Hen Creek (CA)	3/27	60	22.4	11.8	16.8
Squaw Valley #2 (CA)	3/27	137	55.1	41.0	47.6*
Truckee #2 (CA)	3/29	51	18.8	6.7	14.2
Webber Lake	3/29	89	35.1	24.6	31.1
Webber Peak	3/29	122	45.1	36.7	42.5
<u>CARSON RIVER</u>					
Blue Lakes	3/29	115	43.0	30.3	33.0
Carson Pass, Upper (CA)	3/26	100	39.8	26.6	33.7
Clear Creek	3/30	45	15.3	4.1	11.6
Ebbetts Pass (CA)	3/30	129	51.6a	30.5a	-
Fish Valley, Upper (CA)	3/25	54	21.1a	0.0a	15.4*
Poison Flat	3/25	54	21.1a	0.0a	13.9*
Wet Meadows Lake (CA)	3/25	92	35.9a	15.8a	-

+ 1953-1967 period.

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE NAME	THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches) Last Year	Average +
<u>CARSON RIVER (CONTINUED)</u>					
Wet Meadows #2 (CA)	3/29	111	43.1	-	-
Wolf Creek (CA)	3/25	108	43.2a	20.6a	-
<u>WALKER RIVER</u>					
Buckeye Forks (CA)	3/29	81	27.5	14.2	19.0
Buckeye Roughs (CA)	3/29	65	23.3	7.4	17.8
Center Mountain	3/28	109	40.2	25.7	34.6
Leavitt Meadow (CA)	3/27	39	13.9	0.0	6.4*
Lobdell Lake	3/25	62	23.6a	6.6a	-
Sonora Pass (CA)	3/27	79	32.0	17.6	22.6
Tioga Pass (CA)	3/28	80	27.7	21.0	23.3
Virginia Lakes (CA)	3/26	57	21.9	9.4	-
Virginia Lakes Ridge (CA)	3/26	60	21.9	12.2	-
Willow Flat (CA)	3/28	52	17.4	0.0	9.5
<u>NORTHERN GREAT BASIN</u>					
Bald Mountain	3/29	16	5.2	0.0	2.5
Barber Creek (CA)	3/29	42	14.4	12.1	10.3*
Cedar Pass (CA)	3/30	56	19.0	21.6	15.0
Denio Creek (OR)	4/3	0	0.0a	0.0a	0.0*
Disaster Peak	3/26	35	12.1	13.5	9.5
Dismal Swamp (CA)	3/29	59	18.9	21.6a	17.6*
Eagle Peak (CA)	4/2	61	16.2	21.1	14.2
49 Mountain	3/29	16	5.3	0.0	2.6*
Hays Canyon	3/29	21	6.4	0.0	2.9*
Little Bally Mountain	3/29	12	3.4	0.0	1.5*
Mt. Bidwell	3/28	71	25.8	34.2	-
North Star	3/28	47	16.3	-	-
Oregon Canyon (OR)	4/3	30	10.5a	1.1a	4.4*
Quinn Ridge	3/30	0	0.0	0.0a	0.8*
Reservation Creek (CA)	3/28	33	11.2	11.2	10.3*
Trout Creek (OR)	4/3	45	15.7a	4.6a	7.9*
<u>SNAKE RIVER</u>					
Bear Creek	3/30	73	22.8	25.1	19.1
Fox Creek	3/30	39	11.7	8.2	8.9*
Goat Creek	3/30	67	20.2	21.7	18.3*
Hummingbird Springs	3/30	77	24.2	31.4	22.0*
Merritt Mountain	3/24	18	5.4a	5.2a	-
Pole Creek Ranger Station	3/30	74	23.4	25.9	19.7*
Red Point	3/30	49	14.7	13.1	10.2*
76 Creek	3/30	37	12.1	16.5	10.9*
Stag Mountain	3/24	28	8.7a	0.0a	-

+ 1953-1967 period.

# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

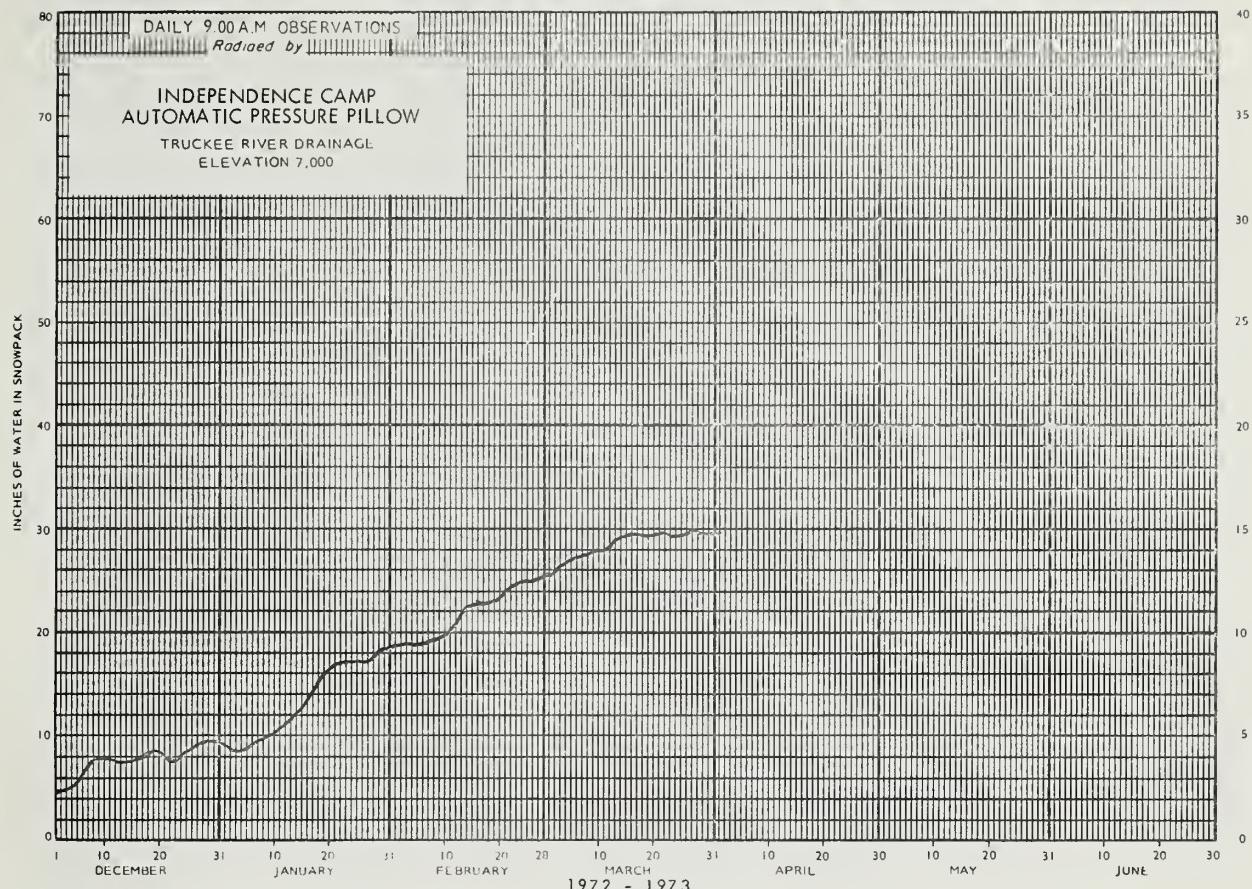
DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE NAME	THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Water Content (inches) Last Year	Average +
<u>OWYHEE RIVER</u>					
Big Bend	3/23	33	8.4	10.3	8.1
Columbia Basin	3/24	36	11.9a	3.4a	-
Fawn Creek	3/24	40	13.2a	0.0a	-
Gold Creek	3/23	19	5.3	3.7	4.7
Jack Creek, Lower	3/28	14	4.0	0.0	2.8
Jack Creek, Upper	3/28	36	11.7	9.7	9.8
Jacks Peak	3/28	76	25.4	33.9	25.7*
Laurel Draw	3/29	27	8.7	6.0	7.2*
Louse Canyon (OR)	3/30	12	3.4a	0.0a	1.6*
Taylor Canyon	3/27	20	7.0	0.0	2.9
<u>UPPER HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>					
American Beauty	3/24	52	17.2a	5.6a	-
Corral Canyon	3/28	77	24.0	13.8	17.7
Dorsey Basin	3/19	40	12.9	11.6	12.2
Dry Creek	3/19	8	2.6	0.0	2.2
Fry Canyon	3/21	25	8.5	2.6	6.3
Green Mountain	3/26	62	18.5	6.5	12.7
Harrison Pass #1	3/26	27	7.9	0.0	2.2
Harrison Pass #2	3/26	38	11.4	0.0	4.2
Lamoille #1	3/27	45	13.4	0.1	9.0
Lamoille #2	3/27	46	13.0	0.1	8.7
Lamoille #3	3/27	52	15.1	7.6	11.8
Lamoille #4	3/27	74	24.0	15.9	17.9
Lamoille #5	3/27	81	25.6	32.4	26.5
Pole Canyon	3/24	60	19.8a	9.8a	-
Robinson Lake	3/24	130	42.9a	37.7a	-
Rodeo Flat	3/21	23	7.7	3.0	5.8
Ryan Ranch	3/19	0	0.0	0.0	0.4
Tent Mountain	3/24	88	29.0a		
Tremewan Ranch	3/23	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trout Creek, Lower	3/20	17	5.6	0.0	2.4
Trout Creek, Upper	3/24	92	30.4a	23.4	20.6
<u>LOWER HUMBOLDT RIVER</u>					
Big Creek Campground	4/3	25	9.3	0.1	0.3
Big Creek Mine	4/3	42	13.3	0.7	2.8*
Big Creek, Upper	4/3	57	17.7	2.0	6.1*
Buckskin, Lower	3/27	28	8.3	3.9	7.0
Buckskin, Upper	3/27	37	12.0	13.3	9.2
Corral, Lower	No survey			0.0	0.5*
Corral, Upper	No survey			0.0	2.1*
Golconda #2	3/29	13	4.2	0.1	2.7*
Granite Peak	3/28	52	15.8	18.1	12.6*
Lamance Creek	3/28	24	7.8	0.1	7.0*
Martin Creek	3/27	34	9.3	0.1	8.2
Midas	3/29	17	4.9	0.1	1.6*
Toe Jam	3/24	43	14.2a	3.4a	-

+ 1953-1967 period.

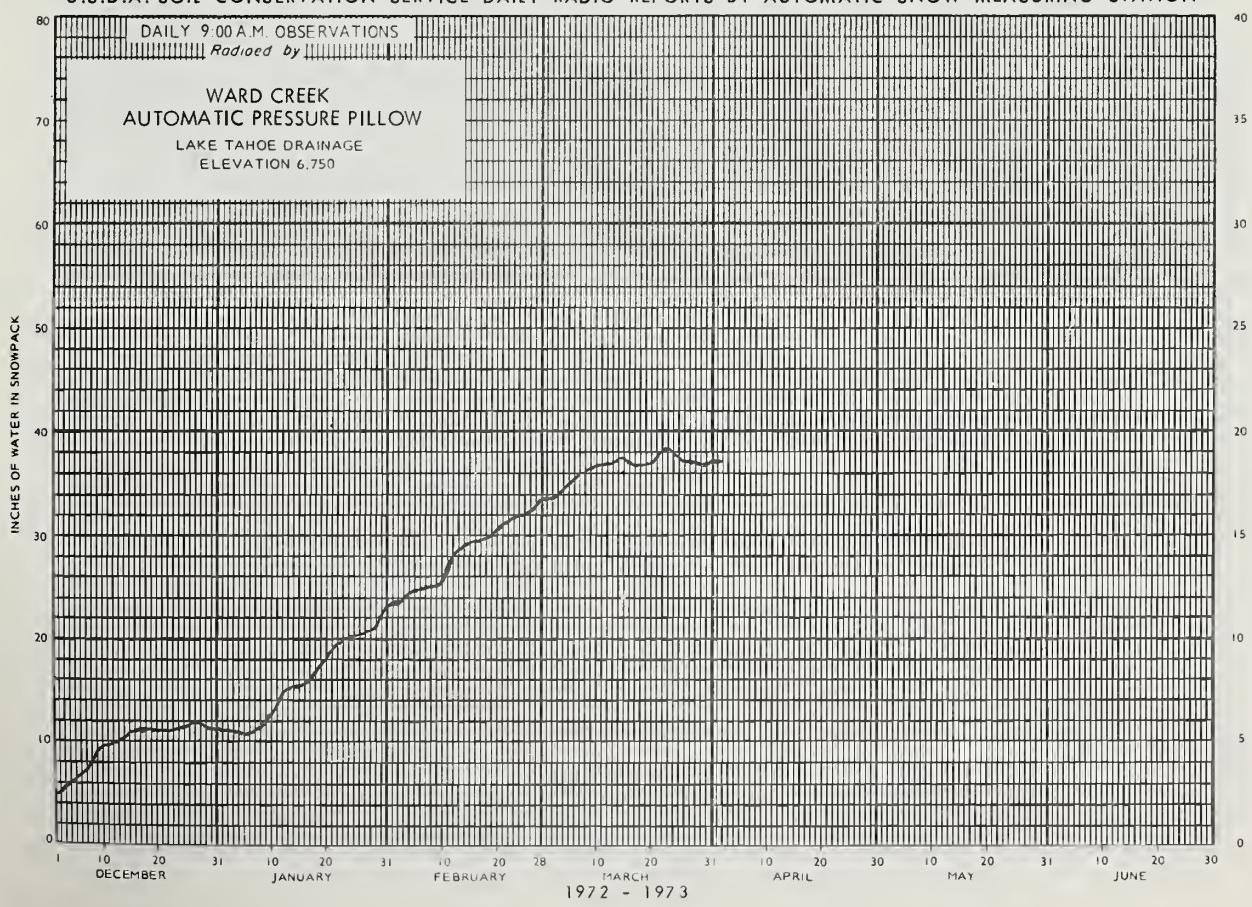
# SNOW COURSE MEASUREMENTS

DRAINAGE BASIN and/or SNOW COURSE NAME	THIS YEAR			PAST RECORD	
	Date of Survey	Snow Depth (Inches)	Water Content (Inches)	Last Year	Average +
<u>EASTERN NEVADA</u>					
Baker #1	3/27	38	9.1	0.1	5.3
Baker #2	3/27	63	17.4	10.6	13.9
Baker #3	3/29	78	21.8a	8.4	16.0
Berry Creek	4/3	80	21.9	15.0	14.1
Bird Creek	4/3	25	6.1	0.0	2.2
Hole-in-Mountain	3/20	55	18.3	30.3	21.8*
Kalamazoo Creek	4/3	47	13.4	0.0	5.4*
McCoy Creek	No survey			0.0	-
Mt. Defiance	3/29	85	24.6a	13.7a	-
Murray Summit	3/26	31	7.5	0.0	1.4
Robinson Summit	3/26	19	4.1	0.0	0.7
Silver Creek #2	3/26	53	11.2a	0.0	5.4*
Ward Mountain #2	3/29	52	13.8a	0.0	13.2*
White River #1	Delayed			0.0	1.0*
<u>CENTRAL GREAT BASIN</u>					
Campito Mountain (CA)	3/28	38	7.1	0.0	5.0*
Chiatovich Flat	3/25	7	2.1a	0.0a	-
Clark Canyon	3/27	75	17.7	0.0	5.6
Montgomery Pass	3/30	7	1.7	0.0	0.4*
Pinchot Creek	3/25	6	2.1a	0.0a	4.7*
Piute Pass (CA)	3/25	3	1.0a	0.0a	6.9*
Trough Springs	3/28	72	17.7	0.1	3.8
<u>LOWER COLORADO RIVER</u>					
Kyle Canyon	3/30	72	20.2	0.6	6.2
Lee Canyon #2	3/30	76	22.1	1.2	6.8
Lee Canyon #3	3/30	62	17.6	0.0	5.1*
Mathew Canyon	4/2	14	4.9	0.0	0.2
Pine Canyon	Est.	16	5.0	0.0	0.2
Rainbow Canyon #2	3/30	97	28.1	7.7	12.6
NOTE: All averages based on 1953-67, 15 year period. Forecast period is April 1 through July 31 unless otherwise noted. a-aerial marker; water content estimated. * 1953-67 adjusted average.					
+ 1953-1967 period.					

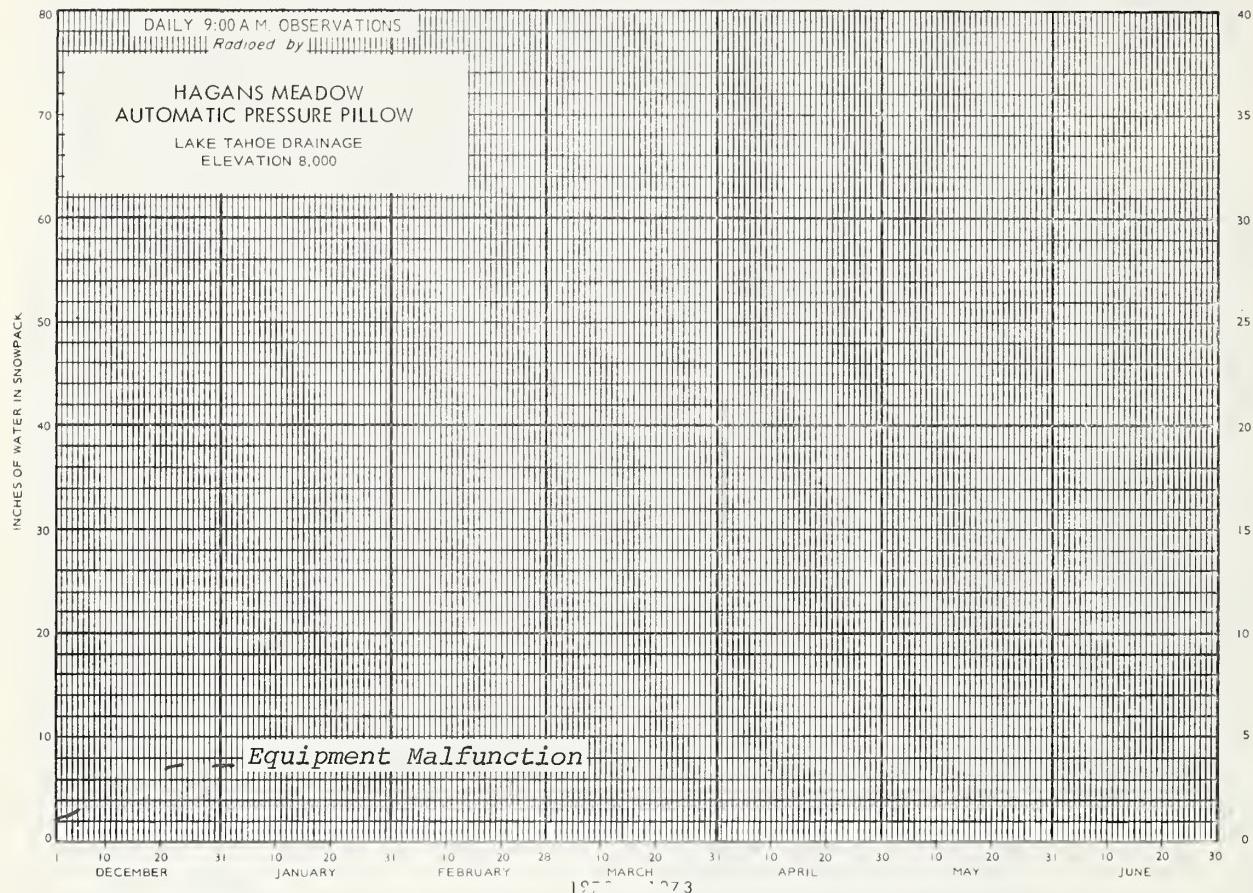
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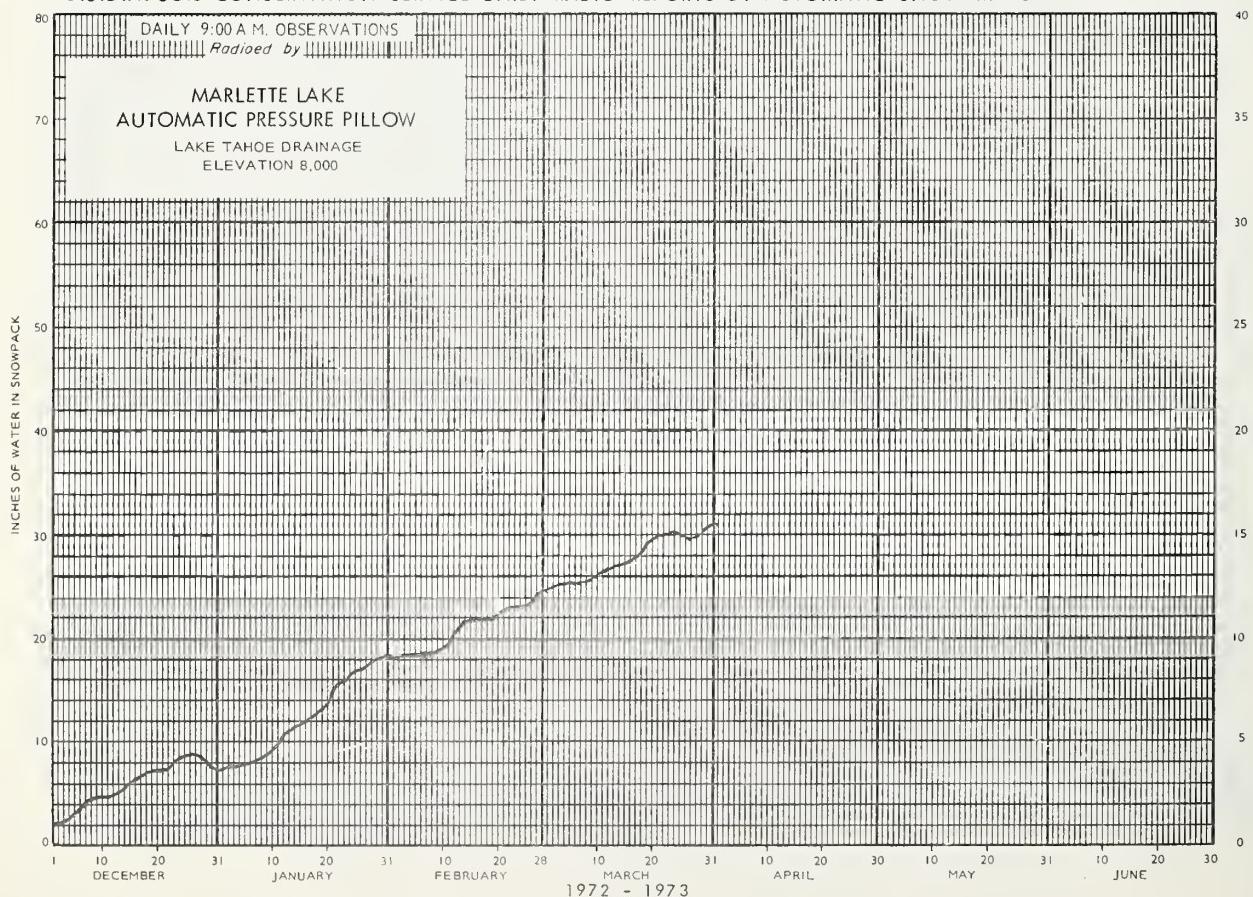
U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION



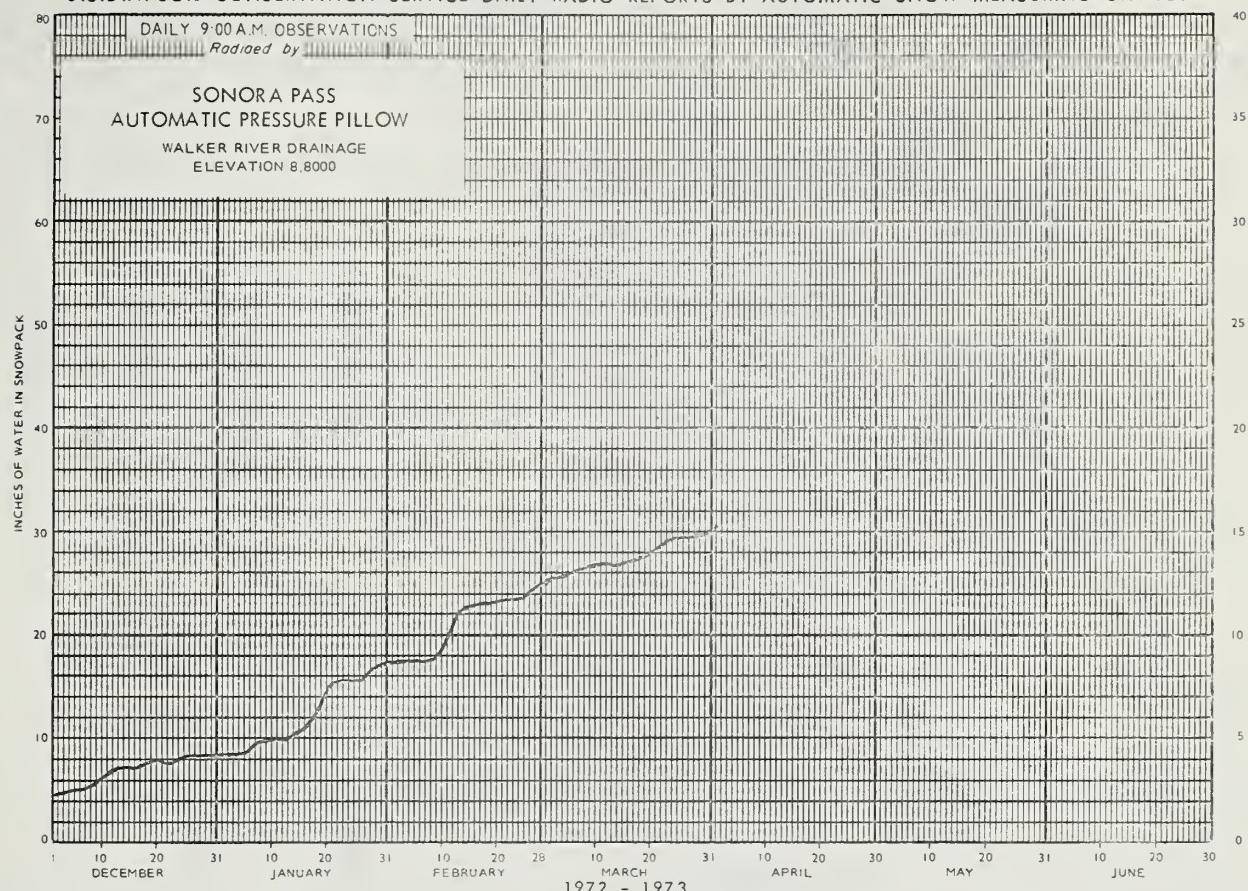
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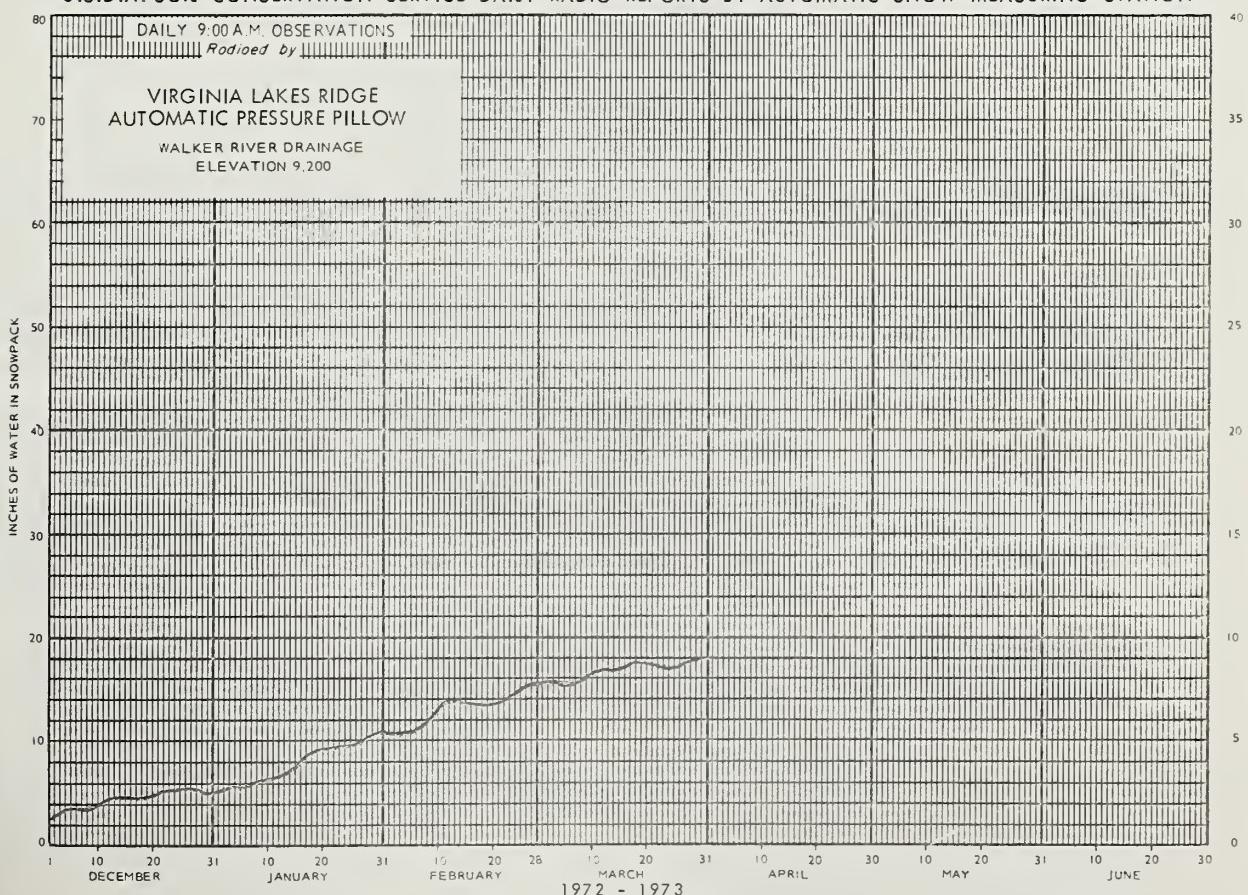
U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION



U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION



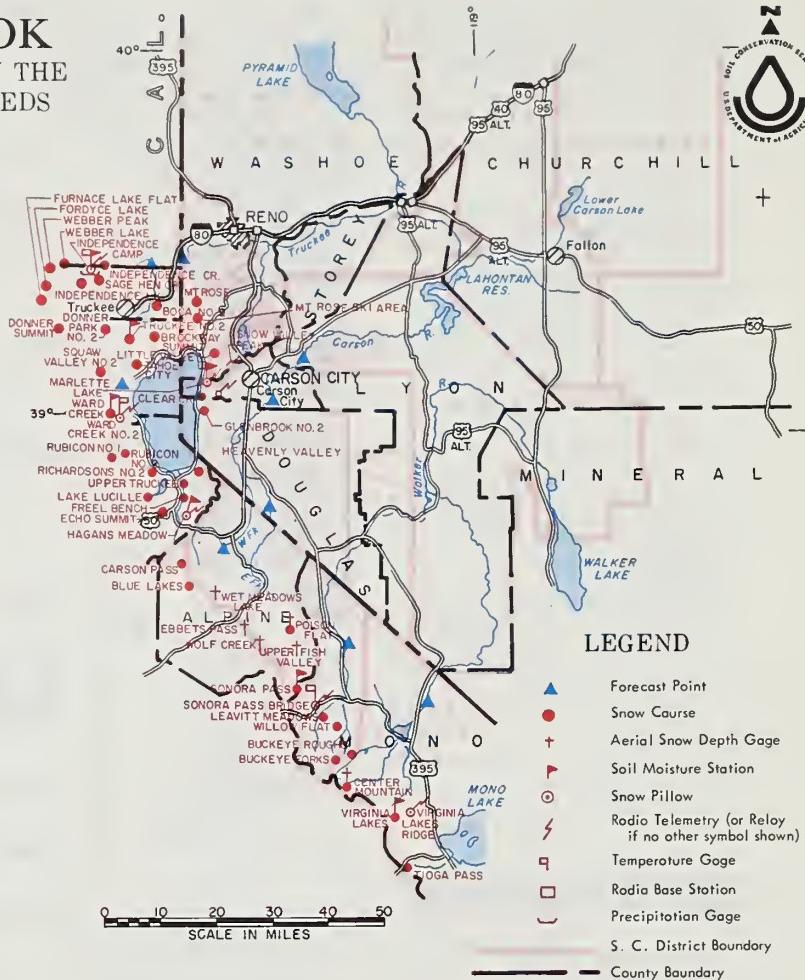
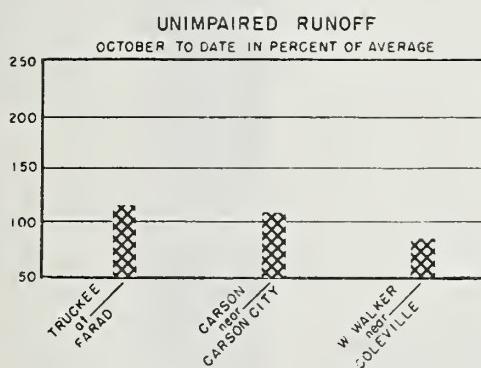
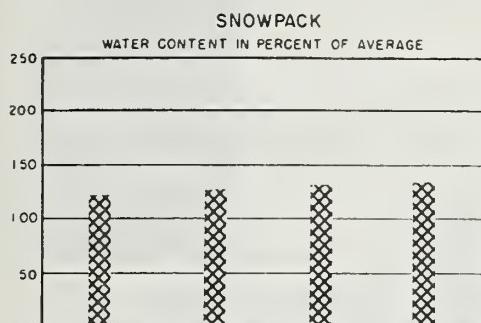
U.S.D.A. SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE DAILY RADIO REPORTS BY AUTOMATIC SNOW MEASURING STATION







# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR THE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN THE TRUCKEE, CARSON and WALKER WATERSHEDS



APRIL 1, 1973

THE WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR THE TRUCKEE, CARSON AND WALKER RIVER WATERSHEDS IS VERY GOOD.

SNOW COVER ranges from 121 percent of average on the Lake Tahoe drainage to 135 percent in the Walker River watershed. The Truckee and Carson Rivers are similar, with 122 and 130 percent of normal snow cover, respectively.

WATERSHED SOILS range from 74 to 80 percent.

RESERVOIR STORAGE remains excellent, with 129 percent of average storage in the Truckee River drainage, 121 percent in Lahontan Reservoir on the Carson River, and 87 percent stored in Topaz and Bridgeport Reservoirs on the Walker River.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS for the April-July period are for above average flows throughout the area, with most forecasts 15 to 20 percent above average.

Area 1

# STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1000 Ac. Ft.) April-July SUMMARY of SNOW MEASUREMENTS

FORECAST POINT	FORE-CAST	% of Average	Average +	WATERSHED	This Years Snow as % of Average +
Little Truckee above Boca, CA	104	128	81	Tahoe	121
Truckee at Farad, CA	310	120	258	Truckee	122
Lake Tahoe Rise (assuming gates closed)	1.70	122	1.39	Carson	130
East Carson near Gardnerville, NV	208	119	175	Walker	135
West Carson at Woodfords, CA	58	114	51		
Carson River near Carson City, NV	204	123	166		
Carson River near Fort Churchill, NV	193	129	150		
East Walker near Bridgeport, CA	75	125	60		
West Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	168	117	143		

## RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)

RESERVOIR	Capacity	This Year	Average +
Tahoe	732	542	431
Boca	41	32	11
Prosser	30	10	9*
Lahontan	314	263	217
Topaz	59	39	44
Bridgeport	42	29	34

\* Adjusted average

## SUMMARY of SOIL MOISTURE

RIVER BASIN	This Years Moisture as % of Average +

Truckee	80
Carson	77
Walker	74

## FORECAST DATE of LOW FLOW VALUES

FORECAST POINT	Low Flow Value Second/Fc.	Forecast Date Stream Will Recede to Low Flow Value	Average Date of Low Flow Value
East Carson near Gardnerville, NV	200	7/28	7/23

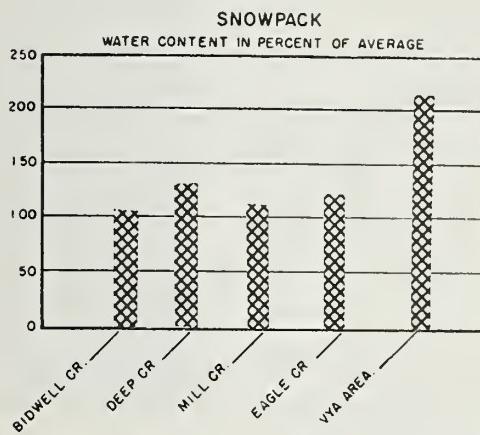
## PEAK FLOWS (MAXIMUM MEAN DAILY) (Av. flow for 24 hrs. on day of greatest flow)

FORECAST POINT	PEAK FLOW (SECOND FEET)	
	Forecast Range	Average +
Little Truckee River - Inflow to Stampede	1100-1200	902
East Fork Carson near Gardnerville, NV	1830-2030	1724
Carson River near Carson City, NV	2060-2280	1825
Carson River at Fort Churchill, NV	1880-2080	1678
West Walker below Little Walker near Coleville, CA	1630-1810	1548

+ 1953-1967 period.

# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

FOR THE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN THE  
SURPRISE VALLEY, CALIFORNIA,  
and NORTHWEST NEVADA



APRIL 1, 1973

THE WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK FOR THE SURPRISE VALLEY AREA IS ABOVE AVERAGE.

SNOW COVER ranges from 108 percent in the Bishop Creek watershed to above 200 percent in the mountain watershed east of Surprise Valley. The general above average snowpack insures irrigators a good supply this summer and will also produce good moisture conditions for the rangeland in the area.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS are for generally above average flows for the Surprise Valley area this summer.

Area 2

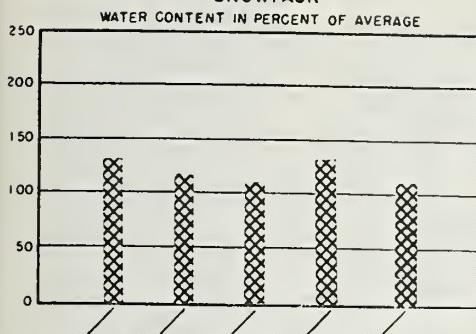
**STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1000 Ac. Ft.) April-July SUMMARY of SNOW MEASUREMENTS**

FORECAST POINT	FORE-CAST	% of Average	Average	WATERSHED	This Years Snow as % of Average +
Bidwell Creek near Fort Bidwell, CA	12.5	109	11.5	Bidwell Creek	108
Deep Creek above all diversions	5.0	152	3.3	Deep Creek	126
Eagle Creek at Eagleville, CA	6.0	140	4.3	Eagle Creek	124
Mill Creek above all diversions	6.0	128	4.7	Mill Creek	119

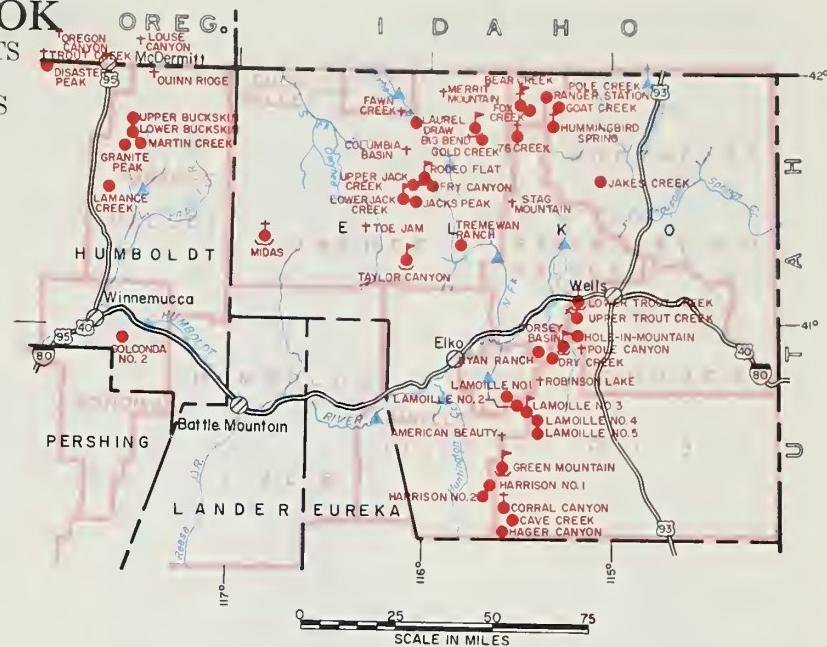
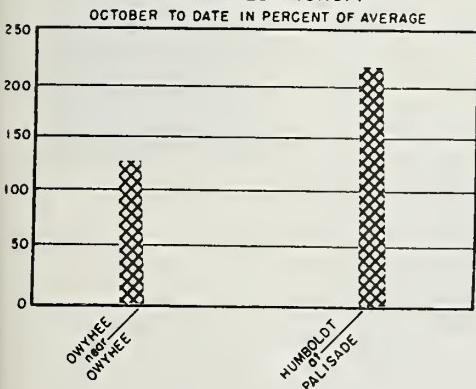
# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

FOR THE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS  
IN THE  
HUMBOLDT and Owyhee WATERSHEDS

## SNOWPACK



## UNIMPAIRED RUNOFF



LEGEND

- S. C. District Boundary
- County Boundary
- Forecast Point
- Snow Course
- Aerial Snow Depth Gage
- Radio Base Station
- Precipitation Gage

APRIL 1, 1973

THE WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK IS ABOVE AVERAGE FOR THE Owyhee AND HUMBOLDT DRAINAGES.

SNOW COVER varies from 109 percent of average on the North Fork of the Humboldt to 135 percent on the South Fork. The Owyhee drainage improved over last month to a 115 percent of average snowpack. Salmon Falls Creek and northeast Nevada currently have a 118 percent of average snowpack.

SOIL MOISTURE is below average in the North Fork area and near average in the Ruby Mountains.

RESERVOIR STORAGE is excellent, with Rye Patch storing above capacity, and Wild Horse nearly full.

STREAMFLOW FORECASTS generally range from 107 to 140 percent of average, with the Humboldt at Palisade forecast to flow 209,000 acre-feet.

### STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1000 Ac. Ft.)

FORECAST POINT,	FORE-C AST	% of Average	Average
Lamoille Creek near Lamoille, NV	30	120	25
South Fork Humboldt near Elko, NV	75	130	58
Marys River above Hot Springs, NV	30	107	28
North Fork Humboldt at Devils Gate, NV	28	108	26
Humboldt River at Palisade, NV	209	136	154
Humboldt River at Comus, NV	158	144	110
Martin Creek near Paradise, NV	15	107	14
Owyhee River near Owyhee, NV	72	120	60
Owyhee River near Gold Creek, NV	21	130	16
Salmon Falls Creek near San Jacinto, NV (March-July streamflow)	77	116	67

### SUMMARY of SNOW MEASUREMENTS

WATERSHED	This Years Snow as % of Average +
Lamoille	123
South Fork Humboldt	135
North Fork Humboldt	109
Owyhee	115
Lower Humboldt	128
Martin Creek	112
Kings and Quinn Rivers	126

### WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Expressed as "Poor, Fair, Average, Excellent" With Respect to Usual Supply.

STREAM or AREA	Flow Period	
	Spring Season	Late Season

Franklin River	Excellent	Average
Kings River	Excellent	Average
Little Humboldt River	Average	Average
Quinn River	Excellent	Average

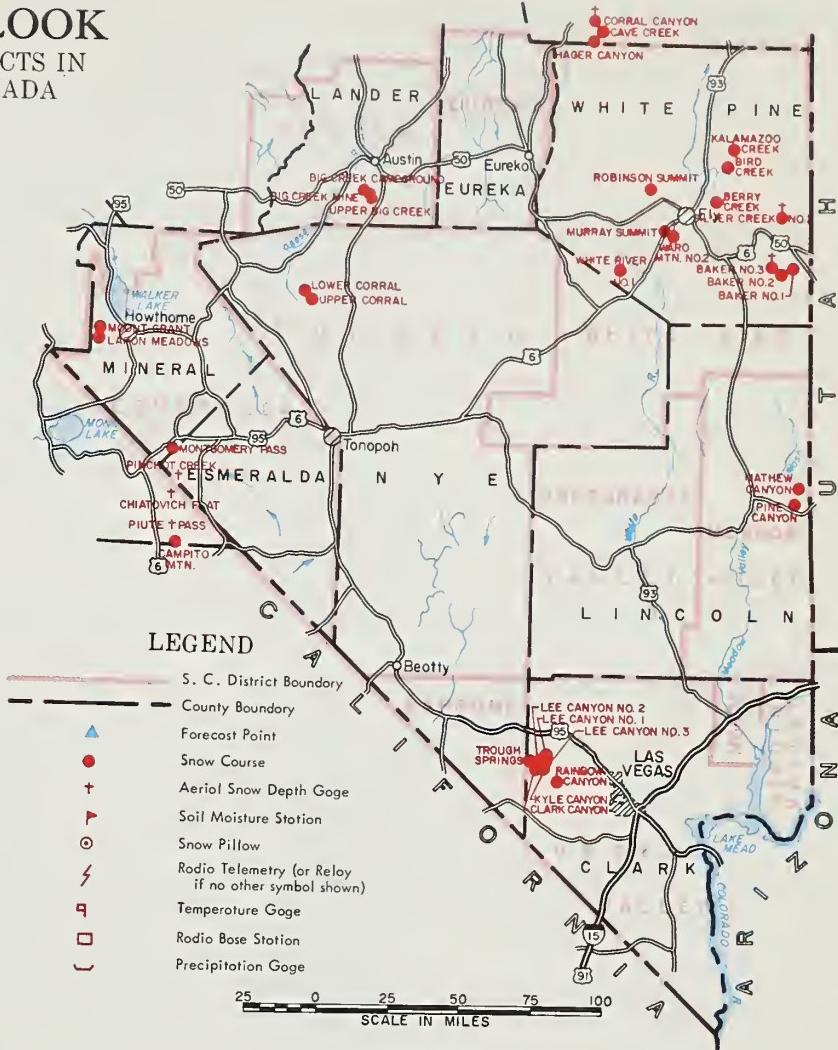
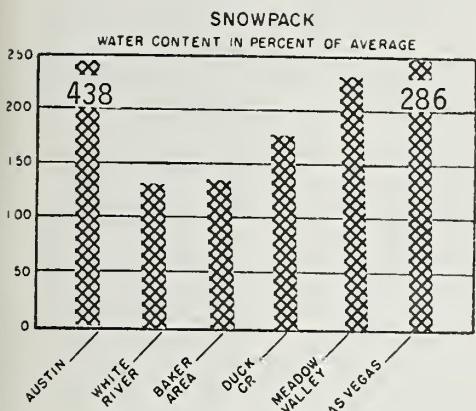
### RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)

RESERVOIR	Capacity	This Year	Average +
Rye Patch	179	187	84
Wild Horse	72	61	18

+ 1953-1967 period.

# WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

FOR THE SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICTS IN  
EAST CENTRAL and SOUTHERN NEVADA



APRIL 1, 1973

THE WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK IS EXCELLENT THROUGHOUT CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN NEVADA.

SNOW COVER is much above average throughout the mountain watersheds in central and southern Nevada. As an example, this year's snowpack on Mt. Charleston has been exceeded only twice since records began in 1941. The Big Creek area above Austin set new, all-time record depths this year. Snowmelt has been delayed by continuing snowstorms during March. Usually, the snowpack in this area melts considerably during March, leaving only the high elevation snowfields.

STREAMFLOW this year will be delayed by the late spring and will produce above average supplies until late summer. Duck Creek and tributary streams to Spring Valley in eastern Nevada will provide excellent irrigation supplies this summer. The Virgin River is forecast to flow 237 percent of average.

# STREAMFLOW FORECASTS (1000 Ac. Ft.) April-June

FORECAST POINT	FORE-CAST	% of Average	Average <sup>+</sup>	WATERSHED	This Years Snow as % of Average +
Virgin River at Virgin, UT	90	237	38	Duck Creek	171
				Fish Lake Valley	162
				Meadow Valley Wash	245
				Mt. Charleston Area	286
				Reese River	438

## RESERVOIR STORAGE (Thousand Acre Feet)

RESERVOIR	Capacity	This Year	Average <sup>+</sup>
Mohave	1,810	1,679	1,695
Mead	27,217	19,980	16,070

## WATER SUPPLY OUTLOOK

Expressed as "Poor, Fair, Average, Excellent" With Respect to Usual Supply.

STREAM or AREA	Flow Period	
	Spring Season	Late Season
Baker Creek	Excellent	Average
Duck Creek	Excellent	Average
Silver Creek	Excellent	Average
Meadow Valley Wash	Excellent	Average
White River	Excellent	Average
Reese River	Excellent	Average

## Agencies Cooperating in Collecting Data Contained in this Bulletin

### FEDERAL

Agricultural Research Service  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Forest Service  
Geological Survey  
Navy  
Soil Conservation Service  
U. S. District Court - Federal Water Master  
NOAA, National Weather Service

### STATE

California Cooperative Snow Surveys  
California Department of Parks and Recreation  
California Department of Water Resources  
Colorado River Commission of Nevada  
Idaho Cooperative Snow Surveys  
Nevada Association of Conservation Districts  
Nevada Department of Conservation & Natural Resources  
Division of Water Resources  
Nevada State Forester  
Oregon Cooperative Snow Surveys  
Utah Cooperative Snow Surveys  
White Mountain Research Station, Univ. of California

### PRIVATE

Amalgamated Sugar Company  
Kennebunk Copper Corporation  
Nevada Irrigation District  
Owyhee Project North Board of Control  
Owyhee Project South Board of Control  
Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Pershing County Water Conservation District  
Sierra Pacific Power Company  
Truckee-Corson Irrigation District  
Walker River Irrigation District  
Washoe County Water Conservancy District

Other organizations and individuals furnish valuable information for the snow survey reports. Their Cooperation is gratefully acknowledged.



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## FEDERAL - STATE - PRIVATE COOPERATIVE SNOW SURVEYS

Furnishes the basic data  
necessary for forecasting  
water supply for irrigation,  
domestic and municipal water  
supply, hydro-electric power  
generation, navigation,  
mining and industry

—  
“The Conservation of Water begins  
with the Snow Survey”